

TENNESSEE ULTIMATE FIRE FIGHTER CHALLENGE

SEPTEMBER 25, 2004

*Are you **TUFF** enough to accept the challenge?*

COMPETITOR INFORMATION PACKET



Dear Participant,

Thank you for your interest in the 1st Annual Tennessee Ultimate Fire Fighter "TUFF" Challenge!

The TUFF Challenge showcases the physical demands of fire fighting and the athleticism of our firefighters in tasks including victim rescue, ventilation, and climbing. The TUFF Challenge celebrates firefighter fitness and is a great way to kick off Fire Prevention Month for October!

The TUFF Challenge Committee, which includes members from the Department of Commerce and Insurance, the State Fire Marshal's Office, the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy, the Tennessee Fire Chief's Association and the Tennessee Firemen's Association, is dedicated to providing a safe and memorable experience for competitors, friends, family members and fans alike. We hope the TUFF Challenge will become a spectacular annual event that Tennesseans look forward to each year.

This first year will be a learning experience for the participants and for the TUFF Challenge Committee. As we gain experience, we hope to add more events and features to the TUFF Challenge in upcoming years – to keep the contest fresh and challenging.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the TUFF Challenge Rules, Challenge Specifications, Challenge Lay-Out, Registration Form, Waiver of Liability and supporting information. You are required to read and adhere to all TUFF Challenge rules and to complete the Waiver of Liability form.

The proceeds from this event will benefit the Tennessee Fire Fighter Memorial, which is in the planning stages through the Tennessee Fire Chief's Association.

The committee welcomes all comments and suggestions; please let us know what you like or what you would like to see changed. Send all correspondence to: TFACA, attention TUFF Challenge, 2161 Unionville-Deason Road, Bell Buckle, Tennessee 37020.

We look forward to your participation in the TUFF Challenge!

~TUFF Challenge Committee

CONTEST OVERVIEW

The Tennessee Ultimate Fire Fighter (TUFF) Challenge is open to **Tennessee Fire Fighters only** and will be held at the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy located in northern Bedford County.

The TUFF Challenge is a team relay challenge with teams of 3 to 5 individuals. All participants will be provided a copy of all TUFF Challenge rules and specifications. Participants are strongly urged to read and abide by these rules. The Waiver of Liability form must be completed by each participant and returned with the registration form and entry fees. Failure to follow all of the challenge rules and regulations may result in a disqualification.

The TUFF Challenge Competition will be held on Saturday, September 25, 2004 at the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy located at: 2161 Unionville-Deason Road in Bell Buckle, Tennessee. Team Competitors registration/sign-in begins at 8:00 a.m. The TUFF Challenge Competition will begin at 9:00 a.m. All times are Central Standard Time (CST).

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED! FIRST COME/FIRST SERVED!

TUFF Challenge registration deadline for teams is August 1, 2004.

Competitors are urged to register early; enrollment is **limited to 50** teams for the challenge.

Only **one team per fire department** may register and participate. Only Fire Departments who have registered via the Tennessee Fire Department Recognition Act may compete. If you need further information regarding the Tennessee Fire Department Recognition Act, contact the State Fire Marshal's Office at 615.741.2981.

Individuals may compete on **one team** only.

Registration will be accepted by mail or hand delivery only. Phone calls and facsimiles will **not be** accepted.

Registrations **are not** permitted on the day of the event. Entry fees **MUST** be submitted with registration. A team is considered registered upon submission of a completed registration form, entry fees and Waiver of Liability. Letters of team confirmations will be mailed to the designated address on the registration form, to the attention of the team captain.

Make checks for TUFF Challenge entry fees payable to: Tennessee Fire Chief's Association

Mail registrations and entry fees to:

TFACA
Attn: TUFF Challenge
2161 Unionville-Deason Road
Bell Buckle, TN 37020

Overnight accommodations are available by contacting TFACA Hospitality Manager Kerry Atwell at 931.294.4305.

CHALLENGE RELAY TEAM COMPOSITION

The relay team **must** consist of at least 3 and no more than 5 persons, male and/or female, any age.

Fire Departments are allowed to join together to form a team.

Team must be classified as a paid fire department or volunteer fire department.

A Department in which 100% of fire department personnel receive fire department pay are classified as paid department. All other fire departments are considered as a volunteer fire department. (These classifications are for the TUFF Challenge competition only.)

Team Captains are responsible for all correspondence with the TUFF Challenge Committee and Judges.

ENTRY FEES

The registration fees are as follows:

Paid Fire Departments - \$100.00 per team.

Volunteer Fire Departments - \$50.00 per team

A late fee of \$25 per team will be assessed after the August 1st deadline.

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION PACKAGE

Each participant will receive a participant information package and is responsible for reading and abiding by all rules.

REFUNDS

Refund requests will be honored for up to 14 days prior to competition date. Requests for refunds after this date **will not** be honored.

WEBSITE

Information will be posted and all efforts will be made to update team registrations on the TFACA website roster, which will be available at www.state.tn.us/commerce/sfm/tfaca after August 1st.

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

Prior to participation, each competitor must sign the Waiver of Liability Form.

Participants refusing to sign the Waiver of Liability **will not** be allowed to compete in any event. This includes team member substitutions.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Awards will be given to the top 3 finishers for both volunteer and paid teams.

A total of 6 team awards will be given.

TUFF CHALLENGE AND TFACA FACILITY GUIDELINES

GENERAL ~

All competitors are expected to be present and checked in at the TUFF Challenge Registration table one (1) hour prior the challenge start. No exceptions!

Each competitor must personally be present for check in.

Delinquent competitors **may be** disqualified.

Alcoholic beverages and/or non-prescription narcotics are **not permitted** on facility grounds.

All participants and visitors must adhere to all posted traffic signs while on campus. Travel on outside of vehicles (hood, truck, tail-gates, etc.) is **not permitted**.

Bedford County Emergency Medical Services will be on hand in the event medical assistance is needed.

START ORDER ~

Random drawing by the TUFF Challenge Committee creates starting order.

The random drawing will take place after the registration deadline of August 1st.

Start order preference **will not** be allowed.

The Teams' starting order will be posted at the event registration table. Team captains are responsible for ensuring that their teams are at assigned areas when called.

If you are unable to participate in your starting order, you must notify TUFF Challenge Committee staff immediately.

The "next-up" competing team **must be** in the staging area in full turnout gear when the preceding participant is at the start line. Your team will be notified to gather at staging area, and you are responsible for being ready on time.

Competitors not ready for start signal **may be** disqualified.

SUBSTITUTIONS ~

Firefighter competitor substitutions within the team are allowed.

TUFF Challenge Committee must be notified of substitutions by September 1st by your Team Captain.

SPECTATORS ~

Spectators, friends and family members are welcome and urged to bring seating, blankets or umbrellas.

Parents/Adults must be responsible for children at all times.

Pets are not allowed on TFACA facility grounds.

Spectators, friends and family **are not** allowed on the course at any time.

Many areas of the TFACA facility grounds will be off limits; all individuals are strongly urged to not cross caution tape designating closed off areas.

Vendors and activities for children will be located near competition area.

TEAM COMPETITORS ~

Competitors are permitted on the course only when they are physically running the competition course.

Penalties, including disqualification, may be assessed for violation of any rule.

Disrupting the competition could result in a disqualification.

The team captain and the TUFF Challenge Marshal will resolve disputes regarding penalties. We do not review videotapes, etc. All TUFF Challenge Marshal decisions are final.

AWARDS

Team competitors will receive a challenge t-shirt. Three (3) awards will be given to top finishers for each category (paid department / volunteer department). Awards must be claimed prior to the conclusion of the event. Items not claimed on the day of competition **will not** be sent to competitors.

Competition results are updated after each competition and posted on the Challenge Result Board, which will be located at the registration desk.

Sponsors on an event-by-event basis may award other prizes. Prizes provided by sponsors are the responsibility of the sponsor. TUFF Challenge Committee assumes no responsibility for the delivery of these awards.

EQUIPMENT RULES

SCBA. Breathing apparatus is provided by the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy and must be worn by all participants. Competitors will not be on air.

TURN-OUT GEAR. Competitors must compete in their own protective equipment. Turnout gear, which includes jacket, pants, boots, gloves and helmets, must be approved for structural fire fighting consistent with NFPA standards. Face-masks and hoods will not be worn during the TUFF Challenge competition. Helmet face shields are optional.

TUFF Challenge Judges will inspect all gear prior to participation. Your team number and fire department name will be called prior to your start time for equipment inspection; all team members must be at appointed inspection area. Team members not at the inspection area can be disqualified or a 2-second penalty may be assessed. TUFF Challenge Judges decisions are final. Articles of turnout gear and SCBA must not be removed or lost during the competition. If dropped, they must be retrieved and correctly replaced by the competitor before continuing. Non-retrieval may result in disqualification.

TEAM RELAY COMPETITION

Each event must be performed in the order specified below.

START. Prior to the start signal, each competitor must be on the start pad. Following the start command, an audible signal will start each team. An early "false" start may result in a restart or a 2-second penalty, at the sole discretion of the Official. More than two (2) false starts may result in disqualification.

TASK 1: High Rise Stair Climb Evolution.

Carry a high-rise standpipe pack (2 sections of 1 1/2" hose) up to the fourth floor of the control building. The standpipe pack is to be deposited at the top of the stairs in the designated area. The free hand may be used to assist in the climb by pulling on the handrails. No skipping of steps is allowed on the way down. The team is disqualified if the pack falls from the fourth floor.

TASK 2: Hose Hoist Evolution.

A donut roll of 2 1/2" diameter hose and utility rope are used for this event. The competitor must stand at the rail of the fourth floor while hoisting. The evolution is complete when the roll clears the railing and is placed in the designated area. The donut roll must stay on the fourth floor. The team is disqualified if at any time loss of control of the donut roll, including falling off the building, or rolling down the stairs. A fallen donut roll may not be retrieved.

TASK 3: Forcible Entry Evolution.

Employing the Forcible Entry Simulator, and with a 8 pound sledge hammer provided, drive the beam five feet by striking the end of the beam. No pushing or pulling is allowed. The end of the beam must be struck squarely and distinctly. Do not hit the handle on the beam. This event is completed when the end being driven crosses the five-foot line. The hammer must be placed in the designated spot.

TASK 4: 1 ¾ Hose Advance Evolution.

After walking the required distance of 140 feet through the cones, pick-up the nozzle end of the 150 foot charged 1¾" line and advance it 75 feet to the line marked on the pavement where you will open the nozzle and hit the target. The nozzle must be fully closed and placed on the ground (not dropped) before advancing to the next event.

TASK 5: Victim Rescue Evolution.

Lift and/or drag a 175-pound rescue dummy a distance of 100 feet. The dummy (and participant) must cross completely over the finish line. This event is complete when the dummy and participant clear the finish line.

EXCHANGES~

You may only exchange the spanner wrench at the five designated spots on the course. You are not mandated to use all five. Competitors are required to use the event spanner wrench, which will be provided.

Exchanging must be hand-to-hand and competitors may elect to put the spanner wrench down after an exchange but must pick up the spanner wrench before advancing to the next event. Competitors may put the spanner wrench in their pocket. Loss of control of the spanner wrench will stop the team's forward progress until the member completing the evolution regains possession. Teams that have less than 5 competitors may have a member complete more than one evolution in succession, or alternatively, they may have another member interposed between the events. In any case, the handoffs must be accomplished in accordance with these rules.

Competitors have five (5) options for the exchange of the spanner wrench. The exchanges areas are listed below:

First Exchange: At the fourth floor of the control building. A legal pass takes place when all competitors' feet are on the fourth floor, following the deposit of the high-rise pack in the designated area.

Second Exchange: Between the last step exiting the tower and on the Forcible Entry Simulator.

Third Exchange: Anywhere within ten feet of the Forcible Entry Simulator.

Fourth Exchange: At the start line for the Hose Advance Evolution.

Fifth Exchange: At the start of the Victim Rescue Evolution. The competitor cannot touch dummy until they have the spanner wrench.

Any early exchange, (hoisting hose, touching the hammer, touching the nozzle, lifting the dummy before a handoff) will result in a 2-second penalty. No assistance can be rendered to a member of a team by any other member of the same team; each infraction will result in a 2-second penalty, (i.e., if a member completing a task drops the wrench, they alone must be the one to pick it up). If any object should fall off the control building (i.e. spanner wrench, donut or high-rise pack), the team will be disqualified. **No exceptions!**

Any rule infraction will result in a 2-second penalty

TUFF CHALLENGE CONTACT INFORMATION~

If additional information is needed, please contact:

Karen Alexander: phone: 931.294.4111 e-mail: karen.d.Alexander@state.tn.us

Cheryle Hunt: phone: 931.294.4111 e-mail: cheryle.hunt@state.tn.us

TFACA Web Site: www.state.tn.us/comemrce/sfm/tfaca

Sponsor information, contact Patricia Holt: phone: 931.294.4111 e-mail patricia.holt@state.tn.us

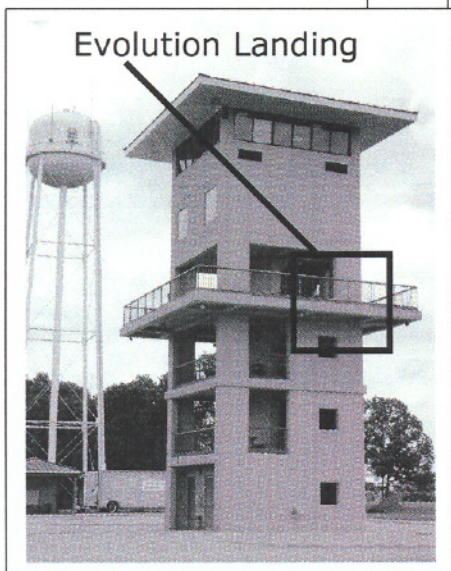
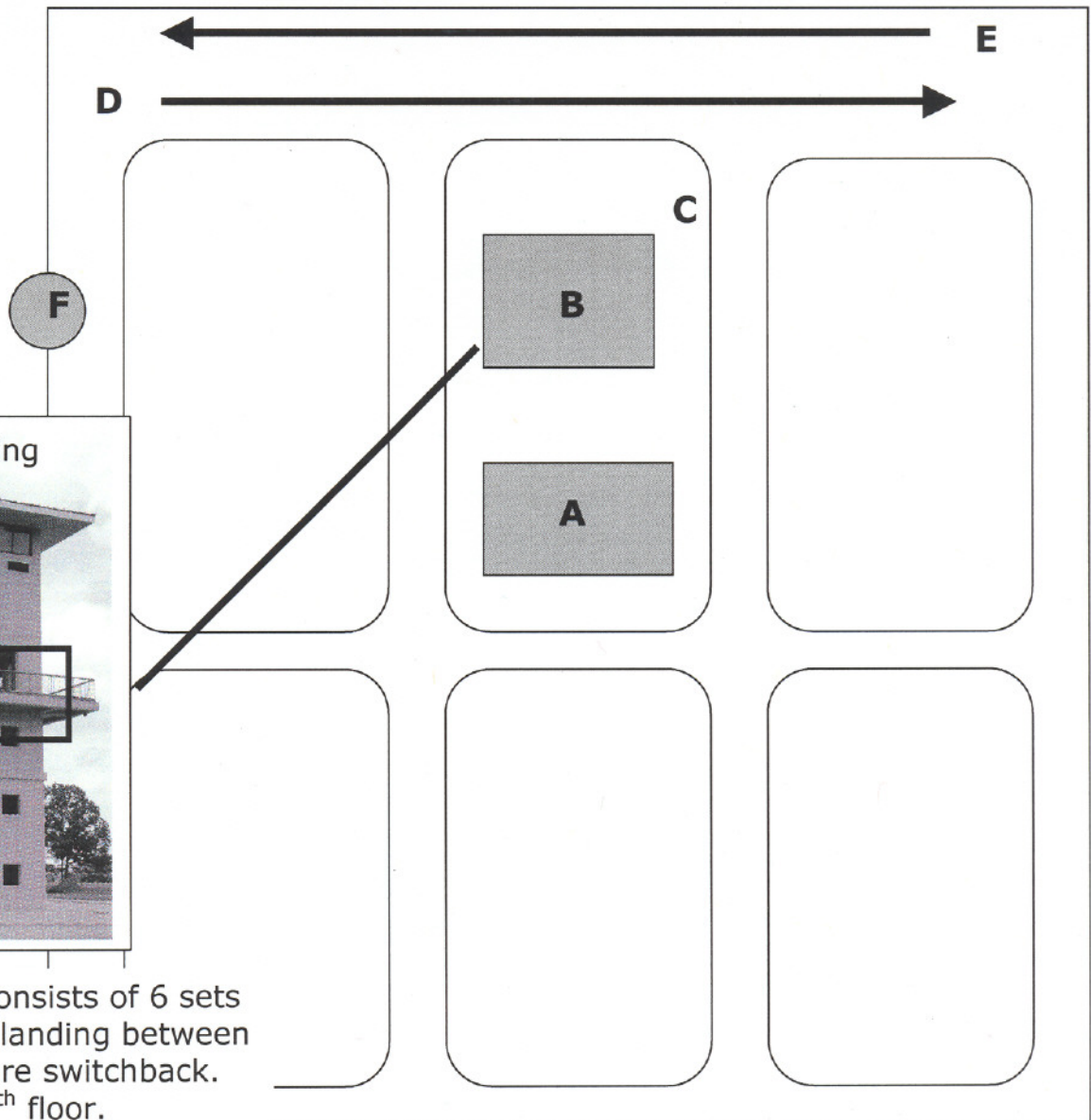
TFACA Accommodations, contact Kerry Atwell: phone: 931.294.4305 e-mail kerry.atwell@state.tn.us

Note:

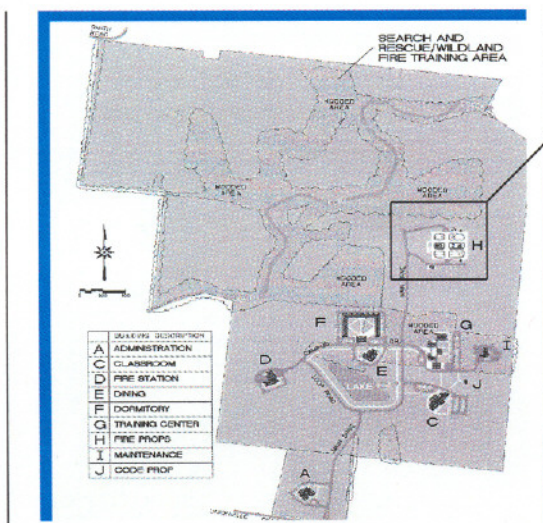
If at anytime a situation arises that is not specifically addressed in this registration packet, the TUFF Challenge Committee will make the determination.

- A- STAGING AREA
- B- HIGH RISE & HOIST
- C- FORCIBLE ENTRY
- D- HOSE ADVANCE
- E- VICTIM RESCUE
- F- HYDRANT

TUFF CHALLENGE COURSE - LAYOUT

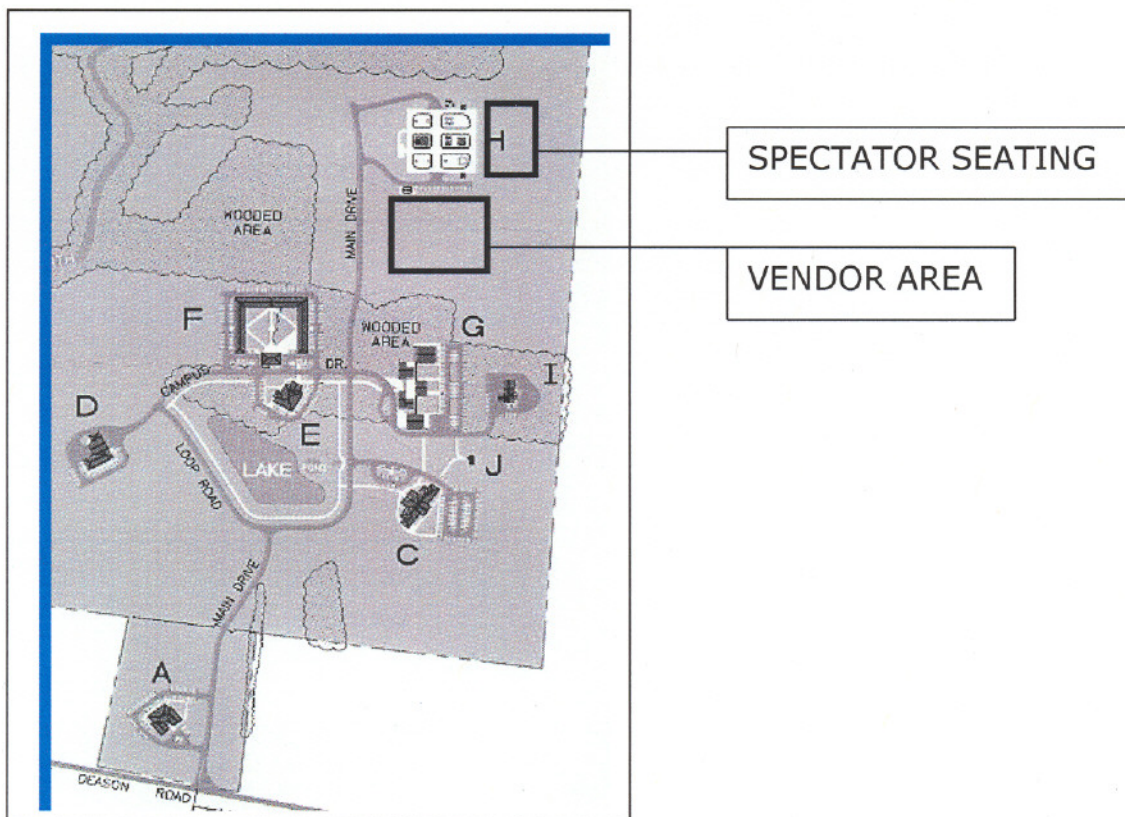


Tower evolution consists of 6 sets of 9 steps, with a landing between each set. Stairs are switchback. Final landing on 4th floor.



Area enlarged

TFACA FACILITY SITE MAP



VISITOR PARKING:

Visitors will park in designated areas only. These areas include parking in sections F, G and E. Additional areas may be designated on September 25th. A shuttle bus will be available for use if needed.

VENDOR AREA:

Vendors will be allowed to set up booths in the designated area near the TUFF Challenge competition area staging ground. Vendors will be assigned areas according to sponsorship levels.

TENNESSEE ULTIMATE FIRE FIREFIGHTER

T U F F CHALLENGE

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I, _____ (PRINT-name of competitor), do hereby acknowledge that I have been informed and understand that the State of Tennessee and the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy must be held harmless and immune from lawsuit for any injuries suffered by me or by my death resulting from training activities on the campus of the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy in Bell Buckle, Tennessee, or any other location at which the Academy performs its training activities, except as provided by law under Tenn. Code Ann. § 9-8-307(a)(1). I have been provided with a copy of this statute and understand the conditions of exception set forth therein and do hereby agree that these are the only exceptions provided to me by the State of Tennessee for any recovery from any personal injury or wrongful death action on my part. I understand that these statutes apply to all agencies, employees and contractors acting on behalf of the state. These statutes do not in any way constitute an insurance policy of any kind, nor will any insurance be otherwise provided to me throughout the course of my training. I further acknowledge that I am above the age of eighteen (18).

Signature

Date

Each participant must sign and date Waiver of Liability Form. All forms must be included with registration forms and fees.



T U F F Challenge Registration
September 25, 2004

(All information must be accurate and complete)

Fire Department Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Fire Dept Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____

E-mail address: _____

Please check department category: Paid: _____ Volunteer: _____

Entry Fee Enclosed? \$ _____ (\$100.00 Paid, \$50.00 Volunteer)

Team Name: _____

Participants: (choose a team captain; list captain name #1. Team captain will be responsible for all correspondence with TUFF Challenge Committee and Judges. This includes disputes, substitutions, etc. Specify t-shirt size L, XL or XXL)

1. _____ Shirt Size: _____

2. _____ Shirt Size: _____

3. _____ Shirt Size: _____

4. _____ Shirt Size: _____

5. _____ Shirt Size: _____

List Team Volunteer Names:

Each member of our team has read and understands all rules and regulations. Each TUFF Challenge team participant has signed a Waiver of Liability, which is enclosed. I, as Team Captain, understand all rules, regulations, and guidelines as set forth in the registration packet. I also understand that a late fee of \$25.00 will be assessed to any registration that is not complete and does not include entry fees.

Signed: _____ Date: _____